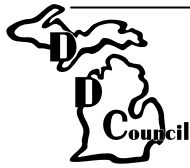


The



Monday Update

November, 2006

Published by the
Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council,
1033 S. Washington, Lansing, MI 48910
www.michigan.gov/ddcouncil

Ballot proposal review, continued: presenting the final two props!

With the November general election just around the corner, here is a look at the last two ballot proposals. See the August and September-October issues of Monday Update for the other three.

Proposal 06-4, if it passes, would amend the state constitution to help prevent government from taking a person's property for public development. At this time, the state can take property under eminent domain and sell it to a private developer. Proposal 4 would limit that ability.

Here is the proposal as it appears on the ballot:

PROPOSAL 06-4

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT GOVERNMENT FROM TAKING PRIVATE PROPERTY BY EMINENT DOMAN FOR CERTAIN PRIVATE PURPOSES

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Prohibit government from taking private property for transfer to another private individual or business for purposes of economic development or increasing tax revenue.
- Provide that if an individual's principal residence is taken by government for public use, the individual must be paid at least 125% of property's fair market value. The public use idea is important. An example would be a new road or highway.
- Require government that takes a private property to demonstrate that the taking is for a public use; if taken to eliminate blight, require a higher standard of proof to demonstrate that the taking of that property is for a public use.
- Preserve existing right of property owners.

Should this proposal be adopted?

Yes

No

[illegible]

In 2005, the United State Supreme Court said it is alright for governments to take private property for private development. A general example would be acquiring a neighborhood of homes by eminent domain in order to build a shopping mall on that land.

But the court left it to the states to come up with laws that reflect local beliefs about eminent domain. States including Michigan are taking measures to counter the Supreme Court decision by blocking eminent domain and making it part of the state constitution.

People who oppose Proposal 4 say it's because the real value of eminent domain will be lessened. In cases where it is important to the community that a person's property be acquired, the Proposal 4 language in the state constitution will make it more difficult, and more expensive, to finally obtain the needed property.

Last, but not least, Proposal 5

On the Nov. 7 ballot, Proposal 06-5 reads:

PROPOSAL 06-5

A LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH MANDATORY SCHOOL FUNDING LEVELS

The proposal would:

- Increase current funding by approximately \$565 million and require State to provide annual funding increases equal to the rate of inflation for public schools, intermediate school districts, community colleges, and higher education (includes state universities and financial aid/grant programs).
- Require State to fund any deficiencies from General Fund.
- Base funding for school districts with a declining enrollment on three-year student enrollment average.
- Reduce and cap retirement fund contribution paid by public schools, community colleges and state universities; shift remaining portion to state.
- Reduce funding gap between school districts receiving basic per-pupil foundation allowance and those receiving maximum foundation allowance.

Should this proposed law be approved?

Yes

No

[illegible]

That is pretty clear: spend more on schools, take funds from the state's General Fund if necessary; direct fewer dollars into teachers' retirement funds; and spread money around so that poorer school districts get more.

This proposed law is the results of a lack of money in our schools. Less money means tighter school operating budgets and few services and programs for students.

People who are for Proposal 5 say the lack of money for a school means parents are providing some of the things that the school system should be buying, such as pencils and computer software. Many class programs must be paid for by parents.

In some cases, say pro-Proposal 5 people, if a child's parents cannot pay for a field trip, the student will not be able to go along with his or her classmates. Also, parent-teacher organizations are being asked to cover the cost of school repairs and even textbooks.

Vital to the economy?

Those who are for 06-5, and that includes the Michigan Education Association and the Michigan Parent Teacher Student Association, say passage of the proposal is vital to providing well-educated workers as a key to changing the state's poor economy.

Those who are against Proposal 5, including the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, many local governments and the League of Women Voters of Michigan, say passage will not result in more money for schools, but instead put more money into teachers' retirement funds – at the risk of cutting state services. That is because, according to those in opposition, after capping schools' contributions to teacher retirement programs, the shortfall will be made up by the State of Michigan and its taxpayers. This is where much of the \$565 million will go.

Read the proposal again, say opponents, and find any part that talks about improving the quality of education in Michigan.

And the \$565 million increase the proposal calls for? Where will it come from, ask those against 06-5. Government services and health care? Police and fire protection?

Whatever your feelings about the five proposals, make certain you vote and express those feelings by casting your ballot on Nov. 7.

Council grantee starts housing search website for everyone

The grantee for the Council grant Finding Our Way Home has started a website anyone can use to locate housing in their area. The Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC) has started the Affordable/Accessible Housing for People with Disabilities in Michigan to provide information on “over 80,000 rentals throughout the State of Michigan...” Just log on and type in the necessary information: minimum bedrooms, maximum rent, and location. Easy as that.

The new website’s address is:

www.copower.org/housing/index.htm.

Copower is the MDRC website. It also is accessible as a link on the DD Council’s web page at www.michigan.gov/ddcouncil.

It is powered by the RentLinx database, a web service that links to numerous property management companies and associations.

MDRC’s housing site also has links to additional sites that “include expert material and advice on how to proceed with the development of affordable/accessible housing” and how to locate it. Examples include asset building, Section 8 housing choice vouchers, and making homes accessible.

Grit says search shows a lot

According to Nelson Grit of MDRC, a typical search result “can show pictures and floor plans, accessibility, and the number of vacant units.

“Visitors can then initiate email contact with property managers or choose to call the listed telephone number.”

On MDRC’s housing search web site is also information on the Finding Our Way Home project. A description of the project says, “A coalition of

stakeholders and community partners are collaborating in this project for housing systems change.”

October political candidates forum looked at the issues

The DD Council’s Oct. 10 meeting was as current as it gets around election time: a political candidates’ forum. An audience of Council and Regional Interagency Consumer Committees’ members heard candidates or their representatives respond to a series of questions.

The meeting was held at the Hannah Center in East Lansing. First on the agenda were Republican Secretary of State (SOS) Terri Lynn Land and the challenger for her job, Democrat Carmella Sabaugh.

Secretary Land began by reviewing her record over the past four years, including modernizing SOS offices around the state to make them more accessible to people with disabilities. She called for continued improvement of offices and services. Land wants to pre-register 16-year-olds when they get their driver licenses. Then, at age 18, they will already be in the system and can vote.



A good turnout of Council and RICC members greeted the candidates or their representatives.

Sabaugh says no reason needed

Candidate Sabaugh reviewed her record as Macomb County Clerk for 14 years. She oversaw the first county effort in the U.S. to authenticate records and made the county offices accessible. Sabaugh called for the elimination of the need for a reason when requesting an absentee ballot.

Land said she supports no-reason absentee ballots, but Sabaugh countered by saying there was nothing the secretary of state had done to support that statement.

Sabaugh also believes there is no need for a photo ID in Michigan in order to vote. Land spoke about new technology that will allow an electronic swipe of a state ID to permit voting.



Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land (left) and challenger Carmella Sabaugh at the Council's political candidates forum.

Mary Zatina, the first gentleman's chief of staff, represented the Governor, and Rep. Judy Emmons represented candidate Dick DeVos in an exchange of gubernatorial candidates.

Zatina said Gov. Granholm has integrity and is smart. Zatina added that the governor works hard day in and day out and cares about each and every Michigander. Rep. Emmons said

she was there to present DeVos' thoughts on the issues confronting people with disabilities and she said she has a heart and passion for the issues facing them.

Jennifer Granholm's representative said the Governor implemented the Michigan prescription card program, as well as a statewide health information technology network. Coming is a health care program that will bring insurance to 500,000 Michiganders who do not have coverage.

The DeVos stand-in was concerned about cuts in service provider reimbursements and said Gov. DeVos will work with providers and those they serve to get their needs met.

Neither likes Prop 2

Both said their candidates are against Proposal 2 – the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative – and both agreed something must replace the departing single business tax.

Rep. Emmons said as the new governor, Dick Devos will make the transportation needs of Michigan residents a priority. Dollars will be earmarked for improvements and he will commit to working with local transit groups.

Zatina said the Governor will make a mass transit program the hallmark of her second term.

Also on the program were representatives from the two candidates for attorney general. Carol Isaacs, chief of staff for Attorney General Michael Cox, appeared on his behalf. No one represented Amos Williams, the Democratic candidate.

Isaacs said the attorney general has supported people with disabilities during his tenure and she cited two cases as examples. He has also worked in support of Olmstead supporting people who wish to live in a community setting. Isaacs said Cox prosecutes attorneys who violate guardianships and supports ongoing training to reduce people with disabilities being pushed into the criminal justice system.

Neither candidate for U.S. Senator, incumbent Debbie Stabenow nor Republican challenger Michael Bouchard, sent a representative. Bouchard did send a letter that was read to the Council and RICC membership.

Looking for help with creative leadership? Check out the CCL

The Center for Creative Leadership (CCL) is a grant project from the DD Council that is proving to be very successful. It is led by creative, energetic people who are committed to leadership excellence. CCL is a clearinghouse for information on leadership development and much more. It not only links people who want or need leadership skills with those who

can provide them, but also provides tools and supports to foster leadership development.

The project has just begun its third year and, according to Melinda Haus-Johnson, leadership development coordinator for CCL, it is designed to “support people with disabilities to become leaders in their communities.

Haus-Johnson says the basic functions of CCL are:

- Use its statewide database to connect people with disabilities to leadership opportunities in their communities.
- Provide a leadership training curriculum to help community organizers develop disability leadership.
- Support people with disabilities throughout their leadership development.



Participants of Camp Central - a summer leadership program in the Traverse Bay Area. This gathering was part of the We Lead! field test.

A key component of the CCL is the CONNECT – College Organizations Networking Now Each Creating Ties – program that is coordinated by Theresa Squires. The CONNECT program works to create connections among college student disability organizations and support them in making a statewide impact. Check out the website - www.copower.org/leader/college.htm - and sign up for the electronic newsletter (ezine). For more information about the CONNECT program, email connect@prosynergy.org.

One of the many successful activities of the CCL is We Lead! curriculum. This is outreach at its best and is based on teaching disability history and pride and acquiring leadership skills for people with disabilities within their



College leaders attended a CONNECT retreat to network, learn about group transitions, and develop a method to create statewide impacts.

communities. We Lead! participants, says Haus-Johnson, “use their new knowledge and skills as they work together to identify, organize and deliver a community service project.”

We Lead! was successfully run in Kent County by Tai Martin and Theresa Squires last year. It was field tested by three other organizations this past summer. A revised We Lead! curriculum will be available on CCL’s website – www.copower.org/leader/index.htm - in November. Questions on the program can be directed to CCL.

CCL is also busy writing a how-to book on starting a student disability organization. It will cover topics from group purpose and organization to coalition building and fundraising. The book will be available on the website or by contacting CCL directly.

Those interested in leadership, and the skills good leadership requires, are encouraged to become members of CCL. Among the benefits are access to the database of leadership opportunities, the CCL quarterly newsletter, networking with other leaders with disabilities, and solid support when seeking and keeping leadership opportunities.

For more information on CCL and people with disabilities becoming community leaders, contact the Center for Creative Leadership toll-free at 1-866-532-2669. You can email them at leadership@prosynergy.org.

Council committee and work group meeting minutes

Multicultural Committee

Sept. 11, 2006

Present:

Terrie Hylton (chair); Pam Hall; Jim McGaugh; Jacqui Day; Rick Van Horn; Sophie Baker; Mitzi Allen.

Call to Order: by Chairperson Hylton at 10:20 a.m.

August, 2006's meeting minutes reviewed. Van Horn explained that there are missing minutes in the center of the meeting due to a tape recorder failure. He asked that members review notes and add to the minutes if possible. Baker asked to change the statement about Mike Zelle of Flint is not the first person with a disability to be appointed to the Civil Rights Commission, but rather the first person with a disability to be appointed within seven years. Also, Day wished to point out that the food at the Family Gathering in July was nearly gone, not all gone as stated in the August minutes.

This month's agenda reviewed and approved.

Introductions: Welcome to newcomer Jim McGaugh, president of A.D.A.P.T. Consulting in Lansing and a newly-appointed Council member. Congratulations to new Council member Jacqui Day, and to Pam Hall on her reappointment to the Council.

Old Business:

2007 Work Plan. Members edited the Work Plan. See "2007 work plan.doc."

Committee agreed to continue holding its meetings the second Monday of the month at the Council office, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Van Horn proposed taking the meeting on the road to different locales. Hylton suggested having a meeting and tour at the African-American History Museum in Detroit.

Committee presence at the Cristo Rey Health Fair. Hylton cannot be there. She will solicit members to man the booth in her message for the October meeting.

Diversity coordinators from the U.P. will not be at the training tomorrow at the RICC conference...mainly because they have another function to attend in the UP itself. Also, most attending the RICC conference are chairs and alternates, rather than diversity coordinators. Hylton said to consider a diversity coordinator training session in the Upper Peninsula in the near future.

New Business: There is no new business.

Announcements: Michigan Rehabilitation Association is having its conference in Traverse City, Nov. 15-17.

Hylton invited all to an art show for which she was curator: "The Photographs of Milton Rogovin," Sept. 16 through Oct. 21 at Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery, 33 E. Adams Ave., Detroit. Rogovin was blacklisted during the communist scare in the McCarthy Era.

Transportation Work Group

Aug. 3, 2006

Present

Tandy Bidinger, Terry Hunt, Lou Maniaci, Stacey Welling,, JoAnn Lucas, Doug Anderson, Diane Kempen, Leta Giroux, Kelly Fox, the Honorable Tom Casperson, Shelly Hella, Lori White, Jeffery Tornule,

RICC Members Present

Baraga

Mick Sheridan, Carl Mantila, Sue Meyer, Patty Putala, Janet LaPlante, Roxanne Anderson, Ben Ransom, Peggy Cadeui, Chris Lauluma

Delta

Jim Vincenzi, Bob Miller, Bonnie Champeau, Scott Carlson, Marti Martin, Brenda Crow, Lisa Valiquette, Julie Bricker, Ray Leach

Luce
Kim Caterer, Brenda Shoebottom
Marquette
Colin Van, Janice Peterson
Eastern UP
Jodi Tippet
Ontonagon
Sue Ernest, Carol Szaroletta

Approval of minutes

Doug Anderson moved that the July 13, 2006 TWG meeting minutes be accepted as presented. JoAnne Lucas seconded.

A reporter from the local radio station was present.

Public Transportation Budget

Over the past five years the transportation budget has short-changed small rural transit providers. These cuts have a larger effect on small providers. SAFETEA LU, which is federal funds, is very helpful.

In one system 12 FTE's lost health-care for drivers, running on bare bones.

Delta Transit Service 6am-6pm. In August cuts –demand response MWF 4 hours every day. Delta Model – Two cab companies to supplement public transit – Delta Transit subsidizes taxi for certain people. (like a voucher)

Marquette Public Transit has increased fares and is cutting services.

LAC ISSUES

Luce – part of a bigger transit system. Dial-A-Ride 8am-4pm M-F.
Problem: for people to get to work, they cut down on number of days, and hours. We're trying to get LAC's to meet more often. Luce County trying to get more public transportation.

RICCs can present ideas to Transit Agencies and Board of Directors, in writing and signed request.

Feedback to local transit: incident report – do it in writing not just by phone

Delta Millage 5 years millage is the max, (reapply after 4 years).
Last year the Delta millage failed and Ray of D.A.T.A (local transit) who is on the RICC, says RICC has been a great champion of public transportation. Delta- cab company option doesn't work for everyone. D.A.T.A. new lingo – riders are now called customers and the focus is on customer service.

There are currently U.P 43 road projects pulling down transportation funding from the federal government. Call Governors U.P office with questions and/or concerns, Stacey, 906-228-2850.

Voucher projects

Jackson

Don't replace buses and cabs, voucher drivers reimbursed.
Jackson's voucher 3 years. Six grantees, 20 riders have completed training/orientation, 180 miles per person per month, can bank up to 600 miles. One woman is saving up for a trip to Chicago. One person could go to fireworks (when buses don't run), could go get haircut when she wants to. One problem is finding a ride for a person who needs lift-equipped vehicle! Now, voucher riders can use bus vehicle with lift; pay local transit a premium. Car 40¢ mile; 60¢ mile lift equipped van. Qualifications – four turned down because they wanted medical transportation but Medicaid can pay for that. It is up to the riders to select their drivers and check that they have a license and car insurance. Jackson – gave people ideas of where to go! The Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (www.april-rural.org) is a great resource.

Baraga

There is no public transportation. The one-year goal of the Baraga Voucher Project was to develop the pilot project and enroll 10 people – they actually have 20 people enrolled. They will be able to serve 50 total people but that still won't meet the demand.

Success Stories

Gogebic (RICC) Transit Agency –received a proclamation from the Governor re: transportation service for people with disabilities.

Eastern UP

RICC Chair moved into her own apartment and is taking care of her apartment and is arranging her own transportation. RICC members invite

other RICCs to ride along on Saturdays to help each other out; to a wedding, to go along on an outing with family.

Emergency Planning

Public transportation needs to be involved to help evacuate people with disabilities. Everyone needs to be prepared. The DD Council has been researching this issue.

Transportation Work Group

Sept. 14, 2006

PRESENT:

Diane Kempen, Kathy Janego, Aaron Borton, Sharen Blowers, Paul Miller, Tandy Bidinger, Dee Florence, JoAnn Lucas

VIA PHONE:

Genesee: Charlene Lizotte, Gordon Siwula, Carl Fenner, Mae Golden, Tiffany McIntire

Kalamazoo: Don Milbeck, Stacy Riddle

Kent: Rob Lewakowski

Legislative Update

MDOT is seeking input on state plan (long range).

Review of 8/03/06 meeting

The UP TWG meeting was a great success. There were representatives from the governor's office, Stabenow's office, Levin's office and the local radio station. Rep. Casperson came and stayed for the entire meeting.

The Delta RICC has been working hard on getting information out to everyone in the community about the transportation millage.

The TWG traveling meeting needs a new site for next year. We are looking for a location in northern Michigan.

TWG T-Shirt (design, etc.)

The TWG is having T-Shirts made. At the October meeting a final logo design will be determined.

Local Advisory Committees

The Luce Co. RICC is trying to get their LAC to commit to when their next meeting is going to take place.

The Genesee Co. RICC reported that their transportation millage passed and the LAC has accepted a rate increase, doing away with the monthly pass.

Transportation Voucher Project Update

The Jackson Voucher program currently has 50 riders. Unfortunately, they are having difficulty attracting multi-cultural individuals.

Transportation to Local Polling Place

Now is the time to check with your local transit provider about getting a ride to your polling place to vote. There are some transit providers who will provide a free ride to polling places.

Work Plan

The work group went over the details of the TWG work plan for FY07. There were many suggested changes and updates made. The final draft work plan will be presented at the October TWG meeting for approval.

Success Stories

Jackson: The Jackson voucher program currently has 50 riders enrolled.

Kent: A sidewalk study has been completed and presented to the Downtown Development Authority for implementation.

Genesee: The Genesee RICC participated in a walking group, which walked the street to determine if those with a disability could successfully travel around the area.

Other

The TWG presented a transportation workshop at the RICC Leadership Development Conference.

In November, the TWG will present a workshop at the Michigan Rehabilitation Conference on the Voucher program.

Education Work Group

Aug. 23, 2006

Attendance: Jane Spitzley, Marcy Lancaster, Stacey Diekevers, Patt Clement, Glenn Ashley

Phone: Barbara LeRoy, Sherry Cormier-Kuhn, Jane Reagan

1.) Barbara moved to accept the July 26, 2006 minutes. Stacey seconded, and the motion carried.

2.) Universal Education Summit

Planning – update and next steps.

We are looking at dates in the last 3 weeks of March for the Summit, between MSU break which is March 5-9, and before April 1, when many school districts start spring break.

Date to meet to go over participant list – we will do that at the September 27 meeting.

3.) Advise Council on Education Issues

Review workplan draft for 2006-2007. (attached). Jane Reagan moved to approve the Education WG WP for the coming year. Marcy seconded. Motion carried.

Accessibility of meetings. Watch at next month's meeting for the issue of access for cognitive – participation and understanding. Report in terms of things that work well.

Barbara will ask the council research person, Tracy Vincent, to inquire about what other councils are doing on making meetings accessible to people with cognitive disabilities.

4.) Collaboration with Grantees

MSU – Proposal for ECIC (Early Childhood Investment Corporation)

They would like to have the proposal reviewed by the workgroup, discuss how the proposal fits in with the Summit, and how they could participate. Glenn will send out the latest version to the WG.

5.) Tracking of Policy Issues

State Board of Education July and August meetings were cancelled. Next meeting is Sept. 12. Focus of general ed staff is grade level expectations in order for students to meet the new high school graduation requirements, and the issues will consume the Board for the next couple meetings.

Michigan Department of Education

Parent Education grant – interviews have been done with the 2 applicants, but no announcement has been made about a decision.

Autism State Task Force work will not be finished as soon as expected.

They are now hoping to finish by December. They are seeking comments; information is on website. The link to the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Planning Workgroup (from the Centers for Education Networking of Michigan web page: CENMI.org) is <http://www.cenmi.org/asd/>

Detroit Public Schools issues

The committee of advocates met and is planning additional training for parents. They are working on getting a meeting with the new Special Education director.

Stacey and Marcy have been invited to talk with the PAC, along with Liz Bauer.

6.) Announcements

Sherry has completed her Ph.D. and will have more time to help. She would like specific suggestions.

There will be a Michigan Summit on Model High Schools, Jan 9-10 in Novi and April 15-17 in Traverse City. Willard (Bill) Daggett is the speaker. He is from the International Center for Leadership in Education. He is excellent; his message focuses on all people being together. We should have people attend, and look at program to help finalize our Summit. The “Hold the Date” flyer is attached. The website for the presenter is <http://www.leadered.com/drdaggett.html>

7.) Next meeting is Wednesday, September 27

The meeting will be dedicated to the Summit invitation list, and Nancy Peeler or someone else from the Early On Redesign if available.

Family Support Work Group

Sept. 20, 2006

Members Present: Lori Goike, Audrey Craft, Carolyn Allston, Arlene Ferguson, Tracy Vincent

Guests: Tandy Bidinger, Public Policy Analyst

Welcome and introductions were done.

Audrey motioned to approve the August minutes, Lori seconded. Motion approved.

Announcements

- Audrey reported that the Field Guide to Respite has been printed. They are working on a dissemination plan. The children's division is working on getting the Field Guide for CMHs on the Department of Community Health's website. The guide will be a tool to help CMHs evaluate respite programs.
- Taking a Look at Autism conference November 2 & 3 at the Comfort Inn in Okemos
- LICC Conference is being held November 2 & 3 in Traverse City

Single Point of Entry (SPE) and Long Term Care (LTC)

Tandy Bidinger gave the group an update on Long Term Care.

The Long Term Task Force ended and made a series of recommendations to the Governor. The Governor issued three Executive Orders from those recommendations:

- 1) Pilot Project for SPE for LTC
- 2) LTC Commission created
- 3) LTC office established

The SPE awarded pilot projects in four areas: Detroit, Western Michigan, S.W. Michigan and the UP. A SPE public forum is being held September 25th at the Capital View Building from 10:00am – noon. The forum provides individuals an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

SPE legislation passed in the House and the Senate is unlikely to pass it. The Medicaid Waiver provide less hours of care in a person's own home rather than living in a nursing home.

The ultimate goal of SPE is to roll out statewide. For more information on SPE, contact Nora Barkey, barkeyn@michigan.gov.

The LTC Commission is implementing the LTC Task Force recommendations.

Mike Head was appointed director of the LTC Office. Where does family support issues fit into LTC? Currently it isn't being considered. Families and parents need to provide testimony at the public forums (they think usually of families of seniors or adults, not children).

2006-2007 Work Plan

The group discussed new strategies and activities to include in the 2007 work plan. The goal this year is to evaluate the FSWG's process and effectiveness and to assess members' satisfaction of meetings over time. Tracy will incorporate comments/suggestions in the work plan and will distribute it to members by e-mail for final review.

The group decided to develop a survey for parents that can be disseminated in various ways. The group's first step was to decide what information is needed from parents. Survey questions were developed by members to hopefully help the FSWG prioritize what services and supports should be focused on. Lori Goike will finalize the survey and once complete, will send the survey to members for review.

Housing Work Group

Oct. 12, 2006

Attendance: Paul Eckland, Nelson Grit, Sue Hart, Jim McGaugh, Jackie Day, Janice Peterson, Linda Potter, Cheryl Trommater, Penny McMillian, Carl Fenner.

A. Merger of the DD Council and Disability Network/Michigan Housing workgroups

The merger was approved by consensus.

A1. The name of the group will be Michigan Disability Housing Workgroup. Sue Hart and Linda Potter are co-chairs, and Glenn Ashley will take the notes.

A2. Communications: Sue Hart will send agendas and meeting notices. Group email: DNMHousing@yahoogroups.com.

Moderator for the list, Tony Wong, tony@dnmichigan.org. Send him your email address to be added to the listserv.

A3. DD Council sub-committee for providing input to the Council will meet after the teleconference today to look at the DDC workplan.

Does the MDH-WG want the DDC plan to include quarterly information meetings?

It is important if we bring in people outside the disability community.

Examples were:

- TDN is working with the Genesee Land Bank on infill and reutilization of land.
- MLUI on liveable communities.
- ZeroStep for advocates and allies.
- Michael Harris with PVA, by & for architects for CEU credits, about UD in private housing, bringing it up as an option with homebuyers, making it market driven. (Buyer's market now, could be a selling point, so sellers might be more receptive.)
- Rentlinx
- Perhaps next year, having a presentation on Project Hero.

B. Flint Housing Commission

Sue reported problems with the commission in their organization, and unwillingness to address disability issues such as 504 requirements. They do not have a chairperson, any people with disabilities, or residents on the board. The Council is supposed to appoint 3 members, but they have not. Sue has asked HUD about where the rules are about the appointments. Do other places have similar problems?

Nelson has been in contact with HUD, and they are looking into it, but have not done anything yet. Continued communication with HUD is

necessary. All communication with HUD and the commission should be made in writing. Mae also sends copies to the Fair Housing Commission. We do not believe the commission is practicing a good faith effort to comply with the law, and the commission says that TDN does not have standing to demand action. Mae is working to get a resident on the TDN LFA housing group.

It may be worth talking with Steve Gold, who is a strong advocate for housing. Mae also should talk with Paul Eckland.

C. Rentlinx.com – listing of vacant apartments.

The group has been working with Nelson and MSHDA about being the state housing locator system. A link is on the MDRC website housing page. They are doing what they need to do to give a higher emphasis on accessibility. Paul is working with them on that. They want to balance simple data entry that allows realtime listing of vacancies, vs. service to constituents. So they may only show that an apartment has basic accessibility, and people would need to check the details out for themselves. They have been great to work with.

They have been a subscriber service with management companies, and don't necessarily have listings in all parts of the state. The subscription is free, and access to the apartment listings is free. They are willing to let organizations add the link to their website, if they don't charge for services.

D. ZeroStep program

The grant started Oct. 1. We will receive more information later.

E. Michigan Conference on Affordable Housing - Presentations

They want a presentation on PA 182, with how to info and the requirements. Sue Hart, and Habitat of Kent County and Kalamazoo, and Jim Davis from MSHDA OCD.

Linda is working on a presentation on MIMBY, the same as last year, with George Glaster and Harold Mast.

Another presentation on designing healthy communities will include disability issues – rollable, walkable communities.

Another presentation on neighborhood revitalization programs, want to have disability as an element of the presentation. Nelson has contacts with Jonathan Bradford and a Mr. Cummings, who did a presentation on this topic a couple weeks ago.

Glenn talked with the Detroit HRC steering committee about a presentation on HRC. MSHDA wants to have a presentation on Housing Resource Centers.

DAKC and Darryl Domke have submitted proposals for a Universal Design presentation. They will work together.

F. Links with other organizations:

F1. MSHDA – getting people on their implementation groups.

Names have been submitted. The workgroups have not been organized.

MSHDA put out a call for Ambassadors for affordable housing at the housing conference. If we get in on that, we can help get our issues on the table.

F2. Nelson met with the prisoner re-entry initiative, and they are faced with the same issues – affordable housing and supports.

G. Upcoming training and conferences.

G1. Leadership Development Seminar November 3.

Registration form was sent with the meeting announcement. They are already oversubscribed, and looking at ways to meet the demand, such as a larger group, additional dates or sites.

G2. Foreclosure training for Nov. 9

It is encountering the same problems of over-subscription. They are working to add another date.

G3. ADA OSU (Ohio State Univ.) Conference – call for presentations was sent with the meeting announcement. They are due Oct. 31. They want a presentation on how we got PA 182 passed. They would focus on the advocacy, grassroots organizing aspect. Erin Clark, if she were available, would be an asset to the presentation. The group supports a proposal for that conference.

DD Council subcommittee:

Jackie moved to approve the FY2007 workplan with minor edits, and to change Strategy B from “quarterly information meetings” to “semi-annual information meetings.” Jim seconded, and the motion was approved.

Public Policy Committee

Sept. 21, 2006

Present

Pam Hall, Andre Robinson, Rick Van Horn, Jane Spitzley, Terry Hunt, Paul Palmer, Melinda Haus-Johnson, Tandy Bidinger, Dee Florence

Welcome/Introductions

Co-Chair Jane Spitzley called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm.

Approval of Minutes from 7/06/06 meetings

Melinda Haus-Johnson moved that the minutes from the July 6, 2006 meeting be accepted as written. Paul Palmer seconded. CARRIED

Candidates Forum for October DDC Meeting

The October DDC meeting will have a health issues theme and a Candidates Forum will be part of the meeting. Terry Hunt reported to the Committee that the forum is taking shape, questions are being formulated and the candidates are starting to commit to attending.

Work Plan Revision

The Committee discussed and made revisions to the work plan. Once the revisions have been made to the work plan, it will be sent out to Committee members for their review and approval.

Federal Updates

a. Lifespan Respite Program Legislation

Congress has introduced a piece of respite legislation and the DD Council's have asked us to sign on to a letter supporting it, we have.

State Updates

a) Single Point of Entry Forum

MDCH will be holding several "Single Point of Entry" informational forum in the Lansing Area. They will be informational sessions for stakeholders and persons interested in learning about the newly forming Single Point of Entry for long-term care services in Michigan.

September 25, 2006

10:00 am - Noon

Capital View Building

210 Townsend St.

Lansing, MI

October 23, 2006

10:00 am - Noon

Michigan Home Health Association

2140 University Drive, Suite 220

Okemos, MI

November 27, 2006

10:00 am – Noon

Michigan Library & Historical Center

702 West Kalamazoo

Lansing, MI

b) SB 836

This bill has passed the house. It may be difficult for the Senate to pass it, since this is an election year.

PPC Subgroup on Awards

The sub-committee has decided that three awards will be presented.

- o Unsung Advocate

- o Awarded to a person or group not directly affiliated with the Council, but who has worked beyond the requirements of any standing appointment or grant award.

- o Diversity Outreach

- Presented to an individual or group, not necessarily related to the Council, who has demonstrated success and leadership in outreach to people with developmental disabilities from minority cultures within the state of Michigan.
- RICC That Makes a Difference
 - Presented to a RICC that demonstrates substantial, meaningful consumer involvement in useful community activities and RICC-generated projects, providing the RICC with community visibility and the community with coalition building.

All nominations must be submitted and postmarked by Friday, February 16. Awards will be presented at the May DD Council meeting.

Other

The “Faces of Medicaid” project is progressing along. Message Makers presented a structural edit to the Health Issues Work Group. This was a first draft of the video. Overall, the contents of the video is good but a few suggestions were made that would improve the message.

The Legislative Event Subcommittee will follow.

Health Issues Work Group

Aug. 16, 2006

Members present: Theresa Arini, Chairperson

Guests present: Katherine Draper (facilitator for candidate forum) and Donna Morris (Arenac Care Coordination project)

Staff present: Terry Hunt

Terry reported that the candidate forum can have additional time at the October meeting. The council business part of the meeting should be concluded by noon, we will have lunch and begin the forum at 1pm. The following issues were discussed and decisions made:

- conclude the forum by 3:30pm because RICCs will begin to leave about that time.
- Forum timeframes for each office:
 - Governor, 45 minutes. Each candidate will have 3 minutes for opening comments, 2 minutes to respond to each question, 1 minute rebuttal, and 3 minutes closing comments. This will allow for approximately 5 questions.
 - US Senate, 45 minutes. Each candidate will have 3 minutes for opening comments, 2 minutes to respond to each question, 1 minute rebuttal, and 3 minutes closing comments. This will allow for approximately 5 questions.
 - Secretary of State, 30 minutes. Each candidate will have 3 minutes for opening comments, 2 minutes to respond to each question, 1 minute rebuttal, and 3 minutes closing comments. This will allow for approximately 3 questions.
 - Attorney General, 30 minutes. Each candidate will have 3 minutes for opening comments, 2 minutes to respond to each question, 1 minute rebuttal, and 3 minutes closing comments. This will allow for approximately 3 questions.
- Issues we will identify for candidates are:
 - Governor
 - Medicaid reimbursement process and provider rate
 - Long term care
 - Funding for human service agencies
 - Public transportation
 - US Senate
 - MICASA
 - Public transportation
 - Funding for human service agencies
 - Secretary of State
 - Assure accessible parking permits are legitimately used and needed
 - Adequacy of staffing levels in Secretary of State offices
 - Universal policy to register to vote and broader access to mail in ballot
 - Photo ID to vote
 - Attorney General
 - Enforce Olmstead Supreme Court decision

- Implement EPSDT (Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment)
 - Photo ID to vote
- We should attempt to get a media room, per the Leagues guidelines, so media can ask questions of candidates.
 - To the extent possible, we should attempt to attract media (TV, newspaper, radio, cable, internet) from Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Traverse and Marquette. Include information about the council (e.g. What is the DD Council?, work group/committee descriptions, etc.).
 - Facilitate RICC contact with media to encourage media participation.
 - Explore videotaping the forum, editing out only dead time, duplicating and disseminating disks/tapes to RICCs, CILs, etc.
 - Ask RICCs if they would use a videotape of the forum and if so, which format would they prefer.

Next steps:

- Katherine will contact videotaping businesses to explore costs.
- Terry will contact a sampling of RICCs if they would use a forum videotape.
- Terry will update Vendella regarding issues discussed today, including candidate scheduling request forms and media considerations.
- Complete and submit scheduling request forms.
- Katherine will follow up with candidates.

Program Committee

Oct. 10, 2006

Draft Summary of Actions, meeting of October 10, 2006

Present: Barbara Leroy, Todd Koopmans, Caryn Ivey, Melissa Anderson, Theresa Arini, Randy Krause, Carolyn Lejuste

Staff: Glenn Ashley, Cheryl Trommater, Tracy Vincent

Issue: Welcome, Introductions.

Action: N.A.

Issue: Housekeeping: Minutes of the August 22, 2006 meeting.

Action: August minutes approved by consensus.

Issue: Committee Workplan for 2006/07

Action: Cheryl went over the workplan, with the changes from the last meeting. It was approved by consensus

Issue: RFP Schedule for 2006/07

Action: Two RFPs will be issued this coming year. The mini-grants will be issued November or December. A decision will be made on how to break out the RFP for the Michigan Oral Health Needs Assessment, and the RFP will be issued as soon as possible.

Issue: Staff Report on Grant Projects

Information: List of grants for FY 2007 was distributed. The grants were discussed.

The Newaygo RICC would like a presentation on the Our Stories, Our Voices project as soon as the staff is available to meet with them.

The state plan will be printed and distributed next week. It contains descriptions of the plans for all current and upcoming grants.

Transportation Voucher projects – These projects are now well under way. The Committee will invite Pam Hall to its next meeting to talk about Office for Aging Services' role in helping sustain and disseminate the work of the projects.

Issue: Updates

Action: Family and Family Supports Coordinators Meetings grant was awarded to Wayne State University/DDI. A January 1, 2007 start date is anticipated.

Action: Other – Committee start time. 8:30 is too early for people coming in from out of town. Barbara moved that the committee start at 9:00 am on Council meeting days and at 10:00 am on non-Council meeting days. Todd seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Issue: Adjourn

Action: Meeting was adjourned at 10:30.